UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA FORT WAYNE DIVISION

LORI SIMPSON and JOHN SIMPSON,)	
Plaintiffs,)	
vs.)	CASE NO.: 1:12-CV-177-APR
HOOK-SUPERX, L.L.C. d/b/a CVS and CVS PHARMACY, INC.,))	
Defendants.)	

JOINT MOTION TO DISMISS THE CLAIMS OF LORI SIMPSON WITHOUT PREJUDICE

The Plaintiffs, Lori Simpson and John Simpson (collectively referred to as "the Simpsons") and the Defendants, Hook-SuperX, L.L.C. d/b/a CVS and CVS Pharmacy, Inc. (collectively referred to as "CVS"), by counsel, respectfully move the Court to dismiss the claims of Lori Simpson without prejudice and allow the current stay to remain in place as to John Simpson's claim. In support of this motion, the parties state the following:

- 1. In order for the United States Court of Federal Claims, Office of Special Masters, to have subject matter jurisdiction over Lori Simpson's claim for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa *et seq*. ("Vaccine Act"), she may not have a pending civil action for a vaccine-related injury at the time her petition is filed with the Court of Federal Claims.
 - 2. A pending civil action for a vaccine-related injury includes those in which the

proceedings are stayed for purposes of the Vaccine Act. See <u>Hamilton V. Sec'y of HHS</u>, 28 Fed. Cl. 315, 318 (1993), <u>Cook v. Sec'y of HHS</u>, No. 03-2355V, 2012 WL 664766 (Fed. Cl. Sp. Mstr. Feb. 18, 2012), and <u>Zavala v. Sec'y of HHS</u>, No. 03-1337V, 2006 WL 5616331 (Fed. Cl. Sp. Mstr. Jan. 18, 2006).

- 3. However, pursuant to the Vaccine Act, John Simpson may not bring a claim for compensation for loss of consortium or loss of services of his wife, Lori Simpson, in the United States Court of Federal Claims, Office of Special Masters, but he may do so in a separate civil lawsuit.
- 4. In order to preserve John Simpson's right to pursue his loss of consortium claim, if necessary, following the special master's decision on entitlement and damages in *Lori Simpson v*. *Secretary of Health and Human Services* and to avoid the possible running of the two-year statute of limitations on his claim, the parties request that his claim remain stayed.
- 5. The Simpsons, by counsel, will move the Court to either lift the stay or dismiss the action with prejudice after the special master's decision becomes final in *Lori Simpson v. Secretary of Health and Human Services*.

WHEREFORE, the Simpsons and CVS, jointly, by counsel, respectfully request that the Court dismiss the claims of Lori Simpson without prejudice and stay the claim of John Simpson in this matter pending resolution of Lori Simpson's claim in the United States Court of Federal Claims, Office of Special Masters, requesting compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

Respectfully submitted,

THEISEN BOWERS & ASSOCIATES, LLC

s/ John C. Theisen

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Attorney for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby swears and affirms that a true and correct copy of the above was filed by John C. Theisen using the Court's CM/ECF this 4th day of December 2012, which will send electronic notification to:

Kevin K. Fitzharris, Esq. Barrett & McNagny, LLP kkf@barrettlaw.com

s/ John C. Theisen
John C. Theisen